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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 10/600,022 | 06/19/2003 | Brent C. Gerberding | S63.2B-10964-US01 | 5691 |
| 60117 | 7590 | 05/12/2008 | | |
| RATNER PRESTIA P.O. BOX 980 VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482 | | | EXAMINER GANESAN, SUBA | |
| | | | ART UNIT 3774 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | MAIL DATE 05/12/2008 | DELIVERY MODE PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/600,022 | Applicant(s) GERBERDING ET AL. | |
| | Examiner SUBA GANESAN | Art Unit 3774 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 21-31 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20, 32-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Applicant's submission filed on 4/10/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20, 32-36 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 18-19 are objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "marker do not" in line 1 should be ----markers do not---- or ----marker does not----. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-4, 7, 9-20, 32-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ventura (2004/0044399), in view of Edwin et al (20020095205).

4. Ventura et al discloses radiopaque markers in combination with a stent comprising struts having serpentine bands, linear connector struts, and axially

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aligned apices. Ventura discloses marker placement at the connecting strut.

Ventura is silent to the framework having an outer and inner covering of PTFE.

5. Edwin et al teaches the combination of a stent comprising a tubular framework having an outer surface and an inner surface and a plurality of interconnected struts, an outer covering of PTFE and an inner covering of PTFE, the outer covering extending along at least a portion of the outer surface of the expandable framework, the inner covering extending along at least a portion of the inner surface of the expandable framework, at least a portion of the inner and outer coverings being contiguous, the combination further comprising at least one radiopaque marker. See illustrations of figures 3-5 and corresponding supporting portions of the specification. To provide an inner and outer covering of ePTFE to the serpentine frame of Ventura et al to provide better compatibility and tissue response would have been obvious from the teachings of Edwin et al.

Claims 2,3,4, 7, 10-13,20,32-36 see figures 3-5 and specification, paragraphs [0021-0027] of Edwin, et al.

Claims 14 and 15, as broadly worded, fail to distinguish over the stent of Ventura et al. as modified. The stent of Ventura et al is capable of being placed into a cranial vessel of any animal including rabbits, primates and elephants.

Claims 16-19 see para 7 and 34 of Ventura

6. Claims 5-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ventura (2004/0044399) in view of Edwin et al (20020095205) as applied above, and further in view of Gladdish, Jr. et al (20020193867).

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Ventura in view of Edwin is explained supra. However, the references are silent as to whether the radiopaque marker band is crimped on to the stent, embedded in a portion of the stent framework, or a radiopaque plug inserted into an opening in the stent framework. Gladdish teaches crimping, embedding, and inserting a plug into an opening (fig 7 and para 25).

To apply the marker to the stent of Ventura in view of Edwin via crimping, embedding and inserting a plug into an opening as taught by Gladdish would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the purpose of creating a secure connection of the radiopaque marker.

7. Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ventura (2004/0044399) in view of Edwin et al (20020095205) as applied above, further in view of Nolting et al (6488701).

8. The use of stents for correcting cerebral vasculature is taught by Nolting, et al. If not inherent in Ventura et al and Edwin et al to employ a stent to correct aneurysm would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art based on medical considerations

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUBA GANESAN whose telephone number is (571)272-3243. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7-4.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Corrine McDermott can be reached on 571-272-4754. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. G./
Examiner, Art Unit 3774

/William H. Matthews/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3774